

Message Text

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ORIGIN NEA-12

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DRAFTED BY NEA/PAB:MGJONES:MEJ
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AID/ASIA/SA:LLLOWENSTEIN(PHONE)
S/PM:WFSPENGLER(PHONE)
SCI/SA:MSBEAUBIEN(PHONE)

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R 131445Z MAR 74
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

UNCLAS STATE 050003

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, PK
SUBJECT: VISIT OF HEALTH MINISTER TO U.S.

REF: (A) ISLAMABAD 2164; (B) ISLAMABAD 2283

1. SHAIKH MOHAMMAD RASHID, GOP MINISTER OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL WELFARE, CONCLUDED BRIEF BUT BUSY VISIT TO WASHINGTON ON MARCH 11. DEPT AND DHEW ARRANGED NUMEROUS OFFICIAL CALLS AND SIGHTSEEING, INCLUDING NIH, D.C.GENERAL AND G.W.UNIVERSITY HOSPITALS, A SPECIAL TOUR OF WHITE HOUSE, VISITS TO SENATE AND HOUSE, ETC. SPENGLER OF S/PM HOSTED MINISTER AT DEPT LUNCHEON (INCLUDING ROBERT GRANT, OF AID OFFICE OF POPULATION), AT WHICH PAK POP/FAMILY PLANNING MATTERS DISCUSSED (MEMCON FOLLOWS BY POUCH). MINISTER ALSO ATTENDED VARIOUS FUNCTIONS OF INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF PREVENTIVE MEDICINE (BASIC REASON FOR VISIT) AND DELIVERED PAPER ON HEALTH PLANNING AT ONE SESSION. DELAY OF DEPARTURE, PLANNED FOR MARCH 10, WAS FOR MEDICAL CONSULTATIONS ON CHRONIC EYE AILMENT, PERMITTED HILL VISITS AND OTHER PROGRAMMING.

2. DESPITE LIMITATIONS IMPOSED BY WEEKEND AND LAST-MINUTE PLANNING (PAK EMB HAD NO FIRM IDEA OF SCHEDULE UNTIL UNCLASSIFIED

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MINISTER'S ARRIVAL EVENING OF MARCH 7), PROGRAMMING WAS

EXTENSIVE AND USEFUL. RASHID AND PAK EMB ESPECIALLY

PLEASED AT DHEW'S ARRANGEMENTS FOR SATURDAY VISITS TO
HOSPITALS. MINISTER WAS ALSO CLEARLY IMPRESSED BY WHITE
HOUSE PROGRAM, ESPECIALLY SINCE HE AND PAK EMB WERE AWARE
NORMAL RESTRICTION AGAINST MONDAY TOURS. KISSINGER

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